Fire Mutual Aid 154.280; VFire 21

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- •154.280; VFire 21 is currently used as the state standard for VHF Fire Mutual Aid
- This Frequency requires licensing through the FCC
- It was recently discovered that a majority of agencies in the state do not have this frequency licensed



Action Items

- Each agency needs to have a license or an MOU with a licensed agency to operate on this frequency.
- To obtain a license would require paperwork and frequency coordination (which costs money)



Action Items

- DPS has a statewide license for this frequency which covers all state agencies
- FCC and OEC proposed that DPS consider expanding its license to cover all users statewide.
- FCC and OEC also suggested that we consider whether this could be accomplished through the existing MOU in place for AIRS



Action Items

- We have reviewed the AIRS MOU and discussed this matter with DPS
- The MOU provides in relevant part "This MOU authorizes use of state-licensed mutual aid channels for the purpose of coordination between emergency response agencies and resources."
- DPS is willing to extend their license to cover users statewide if requested
- DPS feels the current language in the AIRS MOU is sufficient to cover this frequency.



- The State Fire Mutual Aid Committee concurs that this approach would be desirable.
- It would save agencies money, and expedite licensing compliance.
- Patrick Quinn from the State Fire Mutual Aid Committee is here and available to answer questions.



Questions / Discussion Possible Action

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